

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 10, and 19 are independent. Claims 1-3, 5, 8-10, 13, 16, 19, and 20 are amended.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

In section 4 on pages 2-8, the Office Action rejects claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,850,388 to Anderson et al. (hereinafter "Anderson") in view of Published U.S. Patent Application No. 2004/0042416 to Ngo et al. (hereinafter "Ngo"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the reasons listed below.

For purposes of expediting examination by simplifying issues, and without any disclaimer of claim scope or subject matter, Applicant respectfully amends the form of base claims 1, 10, and 19 to positively recite "displaying an icon for each highlighted object, wherein a **color** of said icon indicates a **current status** of a corresponding highlighted object" (emphasis added). Applicant respectfully refers the Examiner to lines 15-16 of claim 1 and lines 16-18 of claims 10 and 19. Enabling and descriptive support for all of the amended recital appears throughout Applicant's originally filed specification, drawings and original claims including, but not limited to paragraph [22].

Applicant respectfully submits that, upon properly interpreting claims 1, 10, and 19 by applying the broadest reasonable meaning to their claim language, and identifying the differences between these interpreted claims and the scope and content of the prior art as evidenced by the collected teachings of Anderson and Ngo, that the claims are patentable within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 103. Applicant submits, in addition, that the combination of Anderson and Ngo fails to disclose, teach, or suggest the subject matter of claims 1, 10, and 19 of displaying an icon for each highlighted object, wherein a color of said icon indicates a current status of a corresponding highlighted object.

As recited on page 2 of the Office Action, Anderson does disclose how a split-screen display can be used to highlight one ISO protocol layer, as recited in lines 27-29 of column 29. However, as illustrated in FIG. 20, such highlighting only uses a pie-chart format. Anderson clearly does not disclose, suggest, or teach the recited subject matter of displaying an icon for each highlighted object, wherein a color of said icon indicates a current status of a corresponding highlighted object.

Page 5 of the Office Action asserts that Ngo discloses a hierarchical relationship between switches, nodes, shelves, slots, ports, and links in a network. However, Applicant respectfully submits that Ngo fails to remedy the deficiencies of Anderson that were described above. At most, Ngo provides an auto-discovery application tool that displays VLAN provisioning information on a human-machine

interface. In contrast, Ngo does not disclose, suggest, or teach the recited subject matter of displaying an icon for each highlighted object, wherein a color of said icon indicates a current status of a corresponding highlighted object.

Moreover, Applicant respectfully submits that the Office Action lacks a clear articulation of the reasons why, in view of the cited prior art, the claimed invention would have been obvious, as set forth in M.P.E.P. § 2142. The Supreme Court in *KSR Int'l Co. v. Teleflex Inc.*, 127 S. Ct. 1727 (2007) noted that the analysis supporting a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 should be made explicit. Moreover, the Federal Circuit has stated that "rejections on obviousness cannot be sustained with mere conclusory statements; instead, there must be some articulated reasoning with some rational underpinning to support the legal conclusion of obviousness." *In re Kahn*, 441 F.3d 977, 988 (Fed. Cir. 2006).

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that Anderson and Ngo fail to disclose, teach, or suggest "displaying an icon for each highlighted object, wherein a color of said icon indicates a current status of a corresponding highlighted object," as recited in independent claims 1, 10, and 19.

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2-9 are allowable based at least upon their dependence from claim 1 for the reasons stated above in connection with claim 1. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 11-18 are allowable based at least upon their dependence from claim 10 for the reasons stated above in

connection with claim 10. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 20 is allowable based at least on its dependence from claim 19 for the reasons stated above in connection with claim 19.

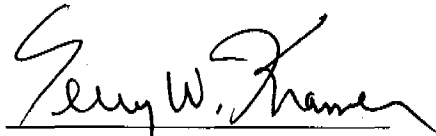
For at least the preceding reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

While we believe that the instant amendment places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

In the event that the fees submitted prove to be insufficient in connection with the filing of this paper, please charge our Deposit Account Number 50-0578 and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
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